can contribute to the financing of the destruction or elimination of strategic offensive arms in Russia), they will:

(I) reduce the overall total to no more than a number of warheads for each between 3000 and 3500;

(II) eliminate all MIRVed ICBMs; and

(III) reduce SLBM warheads to between no more than 1700 to 1750.

At the same meeting, both countries also agreed that both countries should work together with allies and other interested parties in developing a concept for a Global Protection System (GPS) as part of an overall strategy regarding the proliferation of ballistic missiles and weapons of mass destruction.

Supply of Arms by China to Pakistan

4682. SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China has been supplying arms to a number of India's neighbouring countries i.e. Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Burma and Nepal, and according to the experts of Defence Study and Analysis Institute it is posing a danger to the security of the country;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Pakistan and China have close military/strategic links which are posing a danger to the security of India and that seventy per cent of Pakistan's military hardwares are manufactured in China;

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto and whether Government of India propose to have talks with China to deal with this potential danger so as to avert it; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and whether the Hon'ble Minister of Defence dduring the forthcoming visit to China will refer to this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of arms sales by China to Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Myanmar, and its earlier sales to Nepal. Government are also aware of the extensive defence cooperation between China and Pakistan.

(c) and (d) Government have, in discussions with the Chinese Government, expressed our concerns on this score. Government have emphasised that the supply of sophisticated arms technology to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirements of defence, poses a threat to India's security and to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia. Government have also stressed the need for the avoidance of actions that do not build mutual understanding between India and China. During the recent visit to China of our Raksha Mantri our views have once again been conveyed to the Chinese. Government keep under onstart review all developments having a bearing on India's security and take appropriate measures to safeguard the national interest.

Release of Indian Prisoner of war in Pakistani jail

4683. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1523 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd July, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Saheb Bahadur Singh Chauhan, MM number 87148 of INS Khukhari had also been taken as prisoner of war in 1971 and is still in a Pakistani jail;

(b) whether ShriBabu Singh Chauhan, village and post office Chhirawali, Distt. Aligarh, who is the brother of the above prisoner of war, has made several repesentations to Government and submitted evidence to show that Saheb Bahadur Singh Chauhan is still in Pakistani custody which has been corroborated by those who were in jail with him and have since returned to India; and

(c) what efforts have been made by Government to secure the release of Indian prisoners of war in Pakistani jails and what particular steps have been made to secure the release of Saheb Bahadur Singh Chauhan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Shri Saheb Bahadur Singh is reportedly one of the 54 missing Defence personnel who are believed to be in Pakistani jails.

(b) Government have received representations from Shri Babu Singh Chauhan regarding his missing brother.

(c) Government have repeatedly taken up with the Government of Pakistan the question of release and repatriation of all the missing Defence personnel who are believed to be in Pakistani jails. The Government of Pakistan. however, maintains that there are no Indian Defence personnel in its custody. We are continuing to press Pakistan on this issue.

Meeting between Pakistan's foreign Minister with U.N. Secretary General

4684. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani Foreign Minister had met the U.N. Secretary-General around June 23, 1992 and accused India of Interfering in Sind Province affairs while referring to Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, what are the details of the talks; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(c) Government reject these baseless allegations as entirely without foundation.

Opening of a Passport Office at Rajkot

4685. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a demand for opening a new passport office at Rajkot in Gujarat to cover entire Saurashtra Region;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard;

(c) the total number of passport/visa applications received from the Saurashtra region, year-wise, month-wise break up for the last three years; and

(d) whether there is a heavy work load on Ahmedabad regional passport office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.